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Thursday, February 14, 2002

**THIRD TIME, NOT SO CHARMING: ZEPHYRHILLS MAN
SENTENCED FOR BANK ROBBERY**

TAMPA - Rick Allen Fessenden, a 28-year-old Zephyrhills, Florida, resident, was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge James S. Moody, Jr., to 140 months in prison for his conviction for robbing the National City Bank in Holland, Michigan. Court documents show that, on March 23, 2001, Fessenden entered the National City Bank and presented a demand note. After receiving cash from the bank teller, Fessenden fled the area. A search of the vicinity of the bank by FBI agents yielded the jacket and cap worn by Fessenden while robbing the bank, as well as a day planner that contained the demand note. Also in the day planner were a Florida Identification Card and a Social Security Card issued to Fessenden. FBI agents compared the photograph on the Florida ID card with the videotape of the bank robber and determined that Fessenden had robbed the bank. Fessenden entered a guilty plea to the robbery on October 10, 2001, and remained in custody pending the sentencing. In sentencing Fessenden to 140 months' imprisonment, Judge Moody found that Fessenden was a "career offender" and noted that Fessenden had two prior bank robbery convictions. Fessenden previously had pled guilty to and had been convicted of robbing the NationsBank at 5632 Gall Boulevard in Zephyrhills, Florida,

on August 15, 1997; and the SunTrust Bank at 7301 Gall Boulevard in Zephyrhills on July 15, 1998.

This case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda C. Kaiser.